

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action transmitted on August 9, 2007 (the "Office Action"). At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-32 were pending in the application. Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 9-12, 14, 15, 17, 19-22, 24-27 and 29-32 are rejected. Claim 1 is allowed, and Claims 3, 6, 8, 13, 16, 18, 23, 26 and 28 are objected to. Applicants amend Claims 3-11, 13-21, and 23-32, cancel Claims 2, 12, and 22, and respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in view of the following remarks.

Objections to the Specification

The Office Action contends that the title of the invention is not descriptive and requires a new title. Applicants respectfully contend that their amended title, "Processing Data Packets Using Time Stamped Marker Packets," overcomes this objection. Favorable action is requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 8, 12, 18 and 28 are objected to because of informalities in the claim language. Claims 8, 18, and 28 are corrected per Examiner's request. Although Applicants do not believe an amendment to Claim 12 is necessary, to advance prosecution of this case, Applicants amend Claim 12 to more broadly claim "a processor associated with the node" in accordance with Examiner's suggestion. Withdrawal of the claim objections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 3, 6, 8, 13, 16, 18, 23, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants amend Claims 3, 6, 8, 13, 16, 18, 23, 26 and 28 to address this rejection. Favorable action is requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate Examiner's indication that Claim 1 is allowed and Claims 3, 6, 8, 13, 16, 18, 23, 26 and 28 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 112 rejection and to include all of the limitations of each claim's respective base claim and any intervening

claims. Applicants amend Claims 3, 13, and 23 to overcome the section 112 rejections and to include the limitations of each claim's respective base claim. Applicants amend Claim 32 to include limitations analogous to the limitations of Claim 3 that were indicated as allowable. Applicants amend Claims 4-11, 14-21, and 24-31 to depend from Claims 3, 13, and 23 respectively. Accordingly, Applicants contend that all pending claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

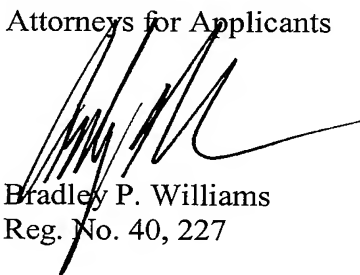
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims.

If Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, please feel free to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants.

Applicants believe no fee is due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants



Bradley P. Williams
Reg. No. 40, 227

Date: November 7, 2007

Correspondence Address:

Customer Number: **05073**